

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Department of Natural Resources
Room 1040
October 14, 2003

Minutes

Member Present:

SOWARDS, Glade – Utah Energy Office
MILLIS, Eric – Division of Water Resources
HARTY, Kimm – Utah Geological Survey
CANNING, Michael – Division of Wildlife Resources
SCHLOTTHAUER, Bill – Division of Water Rights
BAKER, Walt - DEQ Water Quality
DANIELS, Ron – Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
GEORGESON, Michael – Division of Environmental Quality, Drinking Water
WILCOX, Richard – SITLA
KEENE, Michael – Technology & Science
HARJA, John – GOPB/Department of Natural Resources
PAYNE, Val – Department of Natural Resources

Others Present:

WRIGHT, Carolyn – GOPB/Department of Natural Resources
LANDURETH, Brenda – Department of Natural Resources

I. Approval of Minutes

Glade Sowards called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. Kimm Harty made a motion to approve the September 16, 2003 minutes with corrections. Bill Schlotthauer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Special Presentations/Discussion

No special presentations or projects were discussed.

A special meeting will be held after this meeting to discuss Price Resource Management Plan (RMP) alternatives.

III. Report from Agencies on Any Anticipated Projects

Michael Georgeson, , Division of Drinking Water, reported that the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District has applied for a drinking water approval. for reverse osmosis treatment of water from shallow wells along the Jordan River to mitigate the Kennecott ground water pollution plume. The reject water is proposed to be discharged to the Jordan River. The discharge permit will not violate surface water quality standards as per the proposed permit. This permit has been appealed.

Eric Millis, Division of Water Resources, reported on two long-term projects: the Lake Powell Pipeline and the Green River Pipeline. A spur from the Lake Powell Pipeline is being considered that would take water to Cedar City. The idea of a Green River Pipeline is being proposed to bring water from Flaming Gorge to the Wasatch Front. Both projects are probably 20-30 years away and there is a lot of planning and work that will need to be done in determining alignments, rights-of-way acquisition, water rights, etc.

Val Payne, Department of Natural Resources, Administration, announced that the Price Resource Management Planning (RMP) effort has identified alternatives. The Richfield RMP is following closely behind the Price RMP. The Moab/Monticello RMP is conducting a public meeting, Thursday, November 13, 2002, at Red Butte Garden. The Dixie-Fishlake Forest planning effort is also conducting public scoping meetings.

Ron Daniels, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, reported that the division is in the process of rule making for the coal program. The division is watching very carefully the Sand and Gravel Task Force, which is co-chaired by Senator Knudson and Representative Ferry to see what direction in which it is headed to be sure that the group is involved in the review any legislation that is being formulated.

Bill Schlotthauer, Division of Water Rights, mentioned that new proposals by Jerry Olds have received some media attention.

The Colorado River power generation application letters have been sent out. Approximately two dozen responses chose to be withdrawn, and the mailing addresses are currently being updated. The division will develop criteria to determine how to handle this issue. The division is still waiting to hear from the federal agencies.

The Navajo reserve right claims made the initial comments.

The aquifer data collection project in Logan, Utah, will attempt to characterize non-matching interest in participation. If agencies have any questions or data needs please submit comments to Bill Schlotthauer. Water rights, water and effluent reuse issues were discussed.

Mike Canning, Division of Wildlife Resources, reported that the sensitive species list is currently under revision. A public meeting will be held on November 5, 2003.

John Harja announced that Congressman Bishop's bill, H.R. 2909, regarding wilderness in the central and northern range of the Cedar Mountains will have a hearing on Thursday, October 16, 2003. The U.S. Air Force will testify due to their interests in the test and training range (flight path/safety issues) in nearby Dugway, Utah. The Governor's Office will also testify due to their concerns related to wilderness areas, Federal reserve water rights, roads and access issues.

The mining area west of the proposed site does not qualify as wilderness.

Discussion will begin regarding the Navajo water rights within the San Juan River.

The Stone Cabin geoseismic survey and Resource Development Group (RDG) proposal are in the final stages and are ready to be signed by the Governor.

The Bureau of Land Management is talking about wilderness characteristics in their RMPs. The Vernal RMP is almost ready for distribution. A preliminary 90-day review and comment period will begin on November 20, 2003.

The Regional Advisory Council is meeting to discuss the sewage canal, the lack of a protocol and

the lack of coordination. The Resource Development Coordinating Committee can become the clearinghouse for early review coordination. This will create a new category of pre-review.

Representative Brad Johnson is proposing to codify the state's position on multiple-use. The state of Utah believes in multiple-use is the best mechanism for managing the public lands. This will possibly be discussed at the November Natural Resources, Agriculture Interim Meeting. Local governments may also participate.

IV. Review of Proposed Items as Listed on the Project Management Library

No proposed items were discussed.

V. Adjournment

Due to Veterans' Day holiday, the Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2003, at 9:00 a.m., in room 1060. Bill Schlotthauer will bring refreshments for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:50 a.m.